

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending.

I. The Restriction Requirement and the Applicant's Provisional Election

The Office required restriction, under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121, 372, and considered the application to contain separate and distinct inventions, directed to 6 groups designated Groups I-VI, as these inventions or groups of inventions allegedly are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Ruled 13.1 and 13.2.

In response, the Applicant hereby elects, **with traverse**, Group III, claims 13-15 and 17, drawn to compounds of formula (1). Also, for the species, the Applicant elects, **with traverse**, the salt represented by formula (1), wherein the cation is a 1-methyl-3-(n-butyl) imidazolium ion and x is 0.6. The Applicant specifically directs the Office to Example 7 in the Specification.

The Applicant notes that upon allowance of any linking claims, the restriction requirement as to the linked inventions shall be withdrawn and any claims depending from or otherwise requiring all of the limitations of the allowable linking claims will be rejoined and fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.104.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that the search and examination of the claims in Group I-III is not unduly burdensome. According to MPEP section 803 "if a search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent and distinct inventions." Applicants suggest that examination of Groups I and II, directed to a method of using the elected compound to make a fluorine-containing compound can be made without serious burden and it is respectfully requested that claims 1-12 be rejoined with the claims of Group III.

II. Group I and II

Applicants also note that Groups I and II should not have been separated. Claims 1-12 are directed to a method of making a compound of formula (7), the method comprising

reacting a fluorinating agent represented by formula (1) with an organic compound of formula (6). Thus, the Applicants respectfully request that Groups I and II be considered as single Group.

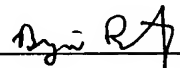
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.


If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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